

AIRLIFT Dispatch

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Airborne

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Photo by Tech. Sgt. Stephen Faulisi

Nearly 1,000 U.S. Army paratroopers and U.S. Air Force tactical air controllers from the 173rd Airborne Brigade, along with an Air Force Contingency Response Group, board C-17s March 26. It was the first time C-17s inserted paratroopers into combat.

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Team Charleston: One family, one mission, one fight!

COMMENTARY

Commander's Comments

By Col. Brooks Bash
437AWcommander

Ops tempo

With the delivery of our 52nd C-17 March 28, Charleston AFB is only one plane away from our full fleet; we have added about 25 percent of our airlift capability in the past year, and the pace of operations has kept each plane fully employed. Along with our partners from McChord AFB, Wash., we have more than 120 crews, averaging 15-25 missions departing Charleston each day, totalling nearly 1,000 missions since we began stage operations here in early January. Our crews also participated in the first-ever combat airdrop of troops this past week, and have been flying missions into Iraq, opening the northern front in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

While the C-17 maintainers and crews have been busy, the 437th Aerial Port Squadron and 437th Logistics Readiness Squadron also continue to pick up the pace. In one day last week, they downloaded 83 trucks of cargo—our Security Forces were key to that record, providing vehicle inspections to get the trucks on base. Additionally, 437 APS had several days in which they loaded more than 600 tons of cargo; at that pace, they are doing nearly as much in a single day as they were doing in an average month after 9/11.

I know other units are keeping a similar pace. Thank you to all of you who are making this hectic pace look like clock work. I know it takes an extra effort, and I salute your initiative and “can-do” attitude. Wow—I am so proud of Team Charleston!

Awards

Congratulations to all who celebrated a promotion this week. We also recognized our April Diamond Sharp winners: **Staff Sgt. Sharon Kelly**, 16th Airlift Squadron; **Senior Airman Christopher Hargis**, 437 LRS; **Airman 1st Class Mark Unverferth**, 437th Communications Squadron; and **Airman 1st Class Clinton Holloway**, 437th Maintenance Squadron. In addition, we had



Photo by Staff Sgt. Corey Clements

Col. Brooks Bash, 437th Airlift Wing commander, spoke with local media after delivering Charleston AFB's 52nd C-17 March 28. CAFB is one plane away from full-fleet force.

the pleasure of presenting an award for meritorious civilian service to **Kathy Knichel**, our chief of protocol. Congratulations Kathy—well deserved!

Air Mobility Command announced more awards recently; two of Charleston's airmen were recognized as the command's best. **Senior Master Sgt. Susan Barnes**, 437th Maintenance Operations Squadron, was named AMC's maintenance analyst senior NCO of the year, and **Major Rawson Wood**, 15th Airlift Squadron, won the operational flight surgeon safety award.

Golf course

Join me Monday at 3 p.m. at the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Wrenwoods Golf Course Clubhouse on Cusabee Trail, next to the base picnic area. Slated to be complete in summer 2004, this will be a world-class facility for a world-class base, with 6,547 square feet of space. As operations continue at a frenzied pace, I encourage you to take time to enjoy our golf course, jogging path, nature trail, or base picnic areas. Our Services Squadron and civil engineers work hard to provide the best recreational facilities to help us maintain balance in our life-take advantage of these military benefits. As always, on duty or off, be safe out there!

Action Line wants to keep base's Natural Resources Path clean

Q: I was walking along the Natural Resources Path for the first time since we've been here and it's great that we have something like that. I do have a problem with it though—it was trashed. Tires, paper, plastic, plastic bags, you name it, it was there. Is there something that can be done? It's a beautiful trail.

A: Thank you for taking the time to notify us of the litter

problem you discovered during your visit to our base Nature Trail. I am concerned that such a problem exists in an area that has been designated specifically to observe our beautiful natural resources. The Civil Engineer Squadron's Environmental Flight takes great pride in the trail, inspects it and cleans up the trash quarterly. Our Base Appearance Team is assisting with the removal of larger items in the creek, and extra effort will be taken to

keep this area clean. We upgraded the nature trail last summer with new boardwalks, seating areas and informational signs. I sincerely hope you, your family, and friends will continue to use and enjoy the nature trail for its recreational value. Thank you for the call.

— **Col. Brooks Bash**
437 AW commander

action@charleston.af.mil, 963-5581

Dispatch

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Mail to: 437 AW PAI, 102 East Hill Blvd.
Charleston AFB, SC 29404-5154
E-mail to: dispatch@charleston.af.mil

Editorial staff

437 AW Commander - **Col. Brooks Bash**
Chief, Public Affairs - **Maj. Linda Pepin**
Chief, Internal Information - **Capt. Krista Carlos**
Editor - **Airman Stephanie Hammer**
Staff writer - **Tech. Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny**
Photo support provided by 437 Visual Information:
Staff Sgt. Corey Clements
Airman 1st Class Tyrone Pearsall
Airman 1st Class Jason Bailey
Andre Bullard

FITNESS, FAMILY, FUN

Three elements key in successes, preparedness

By Lt. Col. Bob Dulong
437 Maintenance Group deputy commander

Wow! That short exclamation clearly describes the current level of effort at Charleston AFB—"the airlift capital of the world." Every facet of Team Charleston has a significant impact on international security as we are challenged with workloads previously unseen. In fact, *Aviation Week and Space Technology* noted in their March 10 edition, "When included with continuing operations into Afghanistan, this airlift is already the third largest in history, behind Berlin and Desert Shield/Storm."

As we blaze new trails in airlift history, we must maintain our perspective in order to be prepared for whatever missions we are tasked with in the future. With this in mind, we should consider some keys elements of our individual successes and preparedness, namely fitness, family, and fun.

Fitness is an important element of our readiness. Fitness has many facets, but the most important is maintaining our health. Our workload certainly demands increased working hours and we often sacrifice our physical fitness routines when faced with such increases. Many complain they are too tired from their jobs to continue their fitness routines. However, fitness actually increases your stamina to meet the many requirements in your life, especially during

worth repeating

"We must maintain our perspective in order to be prepared for whatever missions we are tasked with in the future."



—LT. COL. BOB DULONG
437th Medical Group deputy commander

these challenging times. We are fortunate on Charleston AFB to have fantastic facilities—from work center fitness rooms, to the base fitness center and McComb's Way. It is up to each of us to set aside some personal time to conduct our fitness routines and improve our preparedness.

A fitness routine is usually the first key element impacted by high operations tempo, but high operations tempo certainly increases the time demands on almost every aspect of the family dynamic as well. We need to work very hard to keep our focus on family in the face of very demanding work hours, deployments, and short-notice changes to our taskings.

To help our families during these trying times, communication is crucial. Within the guidelines of operations and communications security, we need to keep our fami-

lies informed of our participation in this chapter of airlift history. We also need to communicate the resources available to family members. To ease these hardships, Team Charleston has outstanding resources such as the Family Support Center, Services, and Chaplains to name just a few. Encourage your family members to visit these agencies and explore options available to help them through these fast-paced times.

The final key to success to find satisfaction in what we are accomplishing. That's where the fun comes in.

Maintain your sense of humor and be sure to point out the lighter side of these trying times to your teammates. Working with Team Charleston professionals offers a great opportunity for fun because each day presents new challenges that demand creative solutions to the day's problems. Fun generates enthusiasm and spirit, qualities evident throughout the work centers that make up Team Charleston. Despite the serious nature of the business we're in, maintaining a "fun" perspective will help you complete this marathon effort of mission accomplishment.

You should be very proud of your contributions to this operation, one that will certainly be recorded in airlift history. Please keep up the good work and remember the three important key elements: Fitness, Family and Fun!

Increased operations equals increased media interest

PA offers tips to help better articulate Team Charleston mission

By Maj. Linda Pepin
437 AW Public Affairs

As the pace of operations at Charleston AFB increases, so does community and media interest in what is happening within the gates. Now, more than ever, people in uniform and their families are in demand to tell the Air Force story and build public trust and support for our mission.

Following are some key points to remember.

- DO keep Public Affairs in mind as you go about your business. Every person on this base plays an important role in keeping the mission going; PA would like to help highlight your part by putting sto-

ries in the base paper, arranging speaking opportunities and giving local media a chance to cover your unit, too.

- DO involve the Public Affairs office from the start. If you are contacted directly by a member of the media or a group requesting a speaker, call 437th Airlift Wing PA at 963-5608 or 315th Airlift Wing PA at 963-2035. PA personnel will help with specific guidance on current operations and issues, and will facilitate an interview or speaking engagement. Do not independently arrange media interviews without

coordinating through PA.

- DO talk to the media. You are the expert on your job, so you're the best person to talk about what you do. PA will call you to arrange an interview at the media's request. If you're uncomfortable with talking to the media, PA can help with guidance and training to put you more at ease.

- DO stay in your lane. Talk about your part of the mission, and resist the temptation to talk outside your scope of knowledge. Keep operational security concerns in mind.

With public sentiment, nothing can fail. Without it, nothing can succeed. — Abraham Lincoln

- DO know what you're going to say. Have in mind your key messages before you begin an interview or speaking engagement. Ask yourself what you want the public to know about your job or the issue you're discussing, and then think about how you will articulate that message.

- DON'T speculate. Stick with known facts within your area of expertise.

Media are also increasingly interested in hearing from family members. PA encourages families to give media insight into the issues and emotions involved in being separated from loved ones. Family members are also welcome to contact PA to facilitate interviews.

NEWS

C-17 crews conduct historic airborne operation



Photo by Airman 1st Class Isaac G. L. Freeman
Nearly 1,000 "Sky Soldiers" of the 173rd Airborne Brigade parachuted from C-17s into the Kurdish-controlled area of northern Iraq March 26 in the first combat insertion of paratroopers using a C-17.

By Master Sgt. Scott Elliott
Air Force Print News

Training. Teamwork. Focus. Pride.

That is how the commander of the largest airborne mission since 1990's Operation Just Cause sums up the aerial delivery of 1,000 members of the Army's 173rd Airborne Brigade into northern Iraq on March 26.

It was the first time a C-17 had inserted paratroops into a combat situation.

"There's a huge amount of pride when you're involved in an operation like this," said Col. Bob Allardice, commander of the 62nd Airlift Wing at McChord Air Force Base, Wash., and former commander of the 437th Operations Group. "We (trained) for years with the Army to be able to project power anywhere in the world. To finally get the opportunity to execute that kind of mission is a big thrill."

According to Allardice, Charleston AFB and McChord AFB crews flew 15 C-17s formation over a distance roughly the equivalent of Seattle to St. Louis to deliver the "Sky Soldiers" to an area north of Baghdad. The mission lasted about nine hours.

Lt. Col. Rick Lassiter, 437 OG assistant deputy commander, described the mission as exciting

because it's something they train for.

"We were ready for it," said Lassiter. "It was an opportunity for us to show our readiness. We focused on the success and working together as a team."

Master Sgt. Chris Dockery, a loadmaster in McChord's 7th Airlift Squadron, said while aircrews practice airdrops constantly, this was no ordinary mission.

"It was special," he said. "It was the first time we'd done something of this size. It was quite a feeling to see all that stuff exit the aircraft, then close the doors and escape out of there."

"We were prepared for anything that could happen," Dockery said. "We were concentrating on making sure we got the stuff to the right place, on time, so the (soldiers) would be able to accomplish their mission."

According to Allardice, even though the drop itself happens very quickly, it is heart pounding nonetheless.

"Once you get into the area, people really get focused," he said. "When the doors open, you can hear the roar of the troops — there are 100 airborne troopers standing up, stomping and yelling, getting psyched up. Then they run out the back of the jet." **(Capt. Krista Carlos, 437 AW Public Affairs also contributed to this article.)**

ANG teams up with security forces for TALCE mission

By Tech. Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny
437 AW Public Affairs

Thirteen members from the 171st Security Forces Squadron, Pennsylvania Air National Guard, flew to Charleston AFB when they got "the call" to deploy on March 18.

Their mission—to join up with the 437th Security Forces Squadron to become part of a Tanker Airlift Control Element mission at a U.S. Central Command forward-operating location.

TALCEs are Air Mobility Command units that set up and manage airfield operations in areas where such support is insufficient or non-existent. A TALCE is composed of mission support elements from various units and deploys in support of contingency or emergency relief operations on both a planned and "no-notice" basis, said Master Sgt. Tim Moore, 437 SFS squad leader. "The security forces part of the TALCE mission will be to set up the initial security perimeter for an air base parking ramp,"



Staff Sgt. Jason Cook, Senior Airman Alex Smith and Tech. Sgt. Brad Katcher, 171st Security Forces Squadron, Pennsylvania Air National Guard, fold a flag. The members carry an American flag with them for each country they visit to hang at their squadron when they return home.

said Moore.

"Our mission is to protect AMC

resources and people. Most likely, the Army will already be providing

base security where we're going, and we'll just need to concentrate on aircraft security. Once the base security is established, we'll pull out and go to the next TALCE location."

The 171 SFS team has been at CAFB since early March, with their 2 ½ tons of equipment, ready to move to a staging location to meet up with another 13-member security forces team.

While the team is well trained and ready to go, they await their next call to continue the journey into the CENTCOM area of operations, said Master Sgt. Matt Vybiral, 171 SFS squad leader.

"We've been living by the telephone hour-by-hour waiting for the call to pack up, and it has caused a little anxiety and stress," said Vybiral.

"Everyone handles stress in their own way, so we make sure our team stays together and doesn't get segregated off on their own,"

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AMC command chief visits Team Charleston

Kerver impressed with hardwork, responsibility of enlisted force

By Airman Stephanie Hammer
437 AW Public Affairs

The command chief master sergeant for United States Transportation Command and Air Mobility Command praised the hard work and responsibility on the shoulders of today's enlisted force during his visit to Charleston AFB March 28.

While here, Chief Master Sgt. Michael Kerver addressed issues weighing on the minds of the enlisted force, beginning with combat operations.

"I'm continually impressed with the quality and enthusiasm of today's enlisted force," said Kerver. "When I was in Afghanistan, I saw a 20-year old airman 1st class with night vision goggles loading a C-17. To have a two-striper with that kind of responsibility really shows the quality of our airmen.

"That's what really impresses me, the level of responsibility our airmen are operating at today," he continued. "How can you help but be proud of that? And even though we are not in direct combat, we're force enablers and multipliers. We're involved in everything from re-supply, to aerial re-fueling, to the airdrop of more than 1,000 soldiers into northern Iraq. Many also forget our enlisted combat controllers, who mark and direct air strikes, often from 30,000 feet above. What our enlisted force is



Chief Master Sgt. Michael Kerver, United States Transportation Command and Air Mobility Command command chief master sergeant, addressed questions on current operations, warrior spirit, Stop Loss and high year tenure during his visit to Charleston AFB March 28.

Photo by Airman 1st Class Tyrone Pearsall

doing out there is incredible. I think their contribution to the war effort is extraordinary, and I couldn't be more proud of them."

Along with this responsibility comes longer deployments and time away from families.

"With roughly 60 percent of our force married, taking care of families takes on a whole different meaning, and I appreciate what our first sergeants, commanders and supervisors are doing on a daily basis,"

said Kerver.

Although the Air Force recently implemented Stop Loss, Kerver said he feels morale is still high among the troops.

"We wear this uniform proudly, and we're expected to do what our country asks us to do; that's called service," said Kerver. "Bottom line is when you raise your hand and swear to defend your country, mental and physical preparation is a responsibility we all share. As

ugly as war is, it's part of what we do and why we wear this uniform.

"You can't forget that above all, beyond everything, service and patriotism is why we do what we do," he continued. "You have to remember that you serve for reasons other than education and a paycheck. That stuff is important, but defending this great nation and preserving our freedom and way of life for not only ourselves, but our children as well, has to be at the top of the list. Stop Loss is just a tool we use to ensure we have the manning and skills necessary for us to engage and sustain. I think this time around, we took the right approach by targeting only needed specialties for Stop Loss."

Kerver also added that Stop Loss will be reviewed every 60 days, and if a skill is no longer required, the Air Force will remove it from the Stop Loss list as soon as possible.

In addition to Stop Loss, the command chief also addressed high year tenure changes.

"I think (the changes) are a good thing because the result is a more experienced and tenured force," said Kerver. "Given the chance, many would stay with us longer."

Before departing the base, Kerver added, "I'm constantly proud of the contributions of the enlisted force. I'm proud to represent them and be their voice."

Air Force announces 2002 Field Grade Nurse of the Year

By Tech. Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny
437 AW Public Affairs

Brightest star in the nursing galaxy, amazing, peerless orchestration of all healthcare facets, worker of miracles and self-made computer guru. That is how Col. W. John Hill, 437th Medical Group commander, describes Lt. Col. Judy Rosen, 437 MDG health care integrator.

And the Air Force agrees, as Rosen was selected as the Air Force's 2002 Field Grade Nurse of the Year.

One of Rosen's many accomplishments was creating and implementing a computerized patient check-in program.

Drawing from experiences of waiting in line and her desires to create better customer service, Rosen created a check-in process that cut the 15-minute wait in line to 30

seconds through computers located in the waiting area of the Family Practice Clinic.

Rosen says she always strives to do her best. The accomplishments she was recognized for include creating a database to track several diseases to help the health and wellness center and the providers provide better treatment plans and education programs for patients; creating a six-part primary care management data folder to give teams insight into their clinic population's health; using the data base to work with the HAWC to create a dietician-run hyperlipidemia clinic; and mounting an aggressive childhood immunization program.

Rosen's role as health care integrator is to optimize the inpatient health care and to maximize resources.

"People can only do so much," said Rosen.

"We keep trying to make them do more, and the best way to help them is to make them more efficient at what they do."

Along with making the medical group more efficient, Rosen is also proud to be an International Lactation Association Consultant.

"I integrate ILAC into my job because part of being a health care integrator is disease prevention," said Rosen. "Besides immunization, there is no greater thing moms can do for their babies for disease prevention than breastfeed."

"I truly, truly believe the only reason I received this award is because I'm surrounded by great people," continued Rosen. "Everything I design would be worthless if the people around me didn't embrace it, integrate it and then continue to come up with better ways to be more efficient."

NEWS

ALS Class 03-D graduates; 14 AS claims Levitow award

Senior Airman Douglas Kuhn, 14th Airlift Squadron, earned the Sgt John L. Levitow Award during Airman Leadership School Class 03 - D and was presented with these honors at ALS graduation dinner March 26 at the Charleston Club.

Senior Airman Ashley Sutton, 437th Communications Squadron, received the Academic Achievement Award.

Senior Airman Shaun Brock, 17th Airlift Squadron, Staff Sgt. Cuchatta Reed, 437th Aeromedical Dental Operations Squadron, and Senior Airman Ian Walston, 437th Maintenance Squadron, received Distinguished Graduate awards.

Staff Sgt. Christopher Smith, 437th Security Forces Squadron, earned the Leadership Award.

Graduates from the five-week course also include:

■ 15th Airlift Squadron – Senior Airman Brian Garner

■ 437th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron – Staff Sgt. Michael Grace and Senior Airmen Michael Burgess, Michael Gause, Wallace

Willoughby, Jason Hoffman, Jason McClure and Joshua Futrell

■ 437th Aerial Port Squadron – Staff Sgts. Justin Kessler and Joseph Parker, and Senior Airman Nathan Patton

■ 437th Civil Engineer Squadron – Senior Airmen Thyese Brewton and Jenae Shanks

■ 437 CS – Senior Airmen Stephen Kilgore and Carson Chambers

■ 437th Logistics Readiness Squadron – Senior Airmen Teddrick Taylor, Chris Kovach, Joseph Beveridge, Reshema Ford, Reginald Williams and Joshua Zellers

■ 437th Mission Operations Squadron – Senior Airman Chad Murray

■ 437 MXS – Senior Airmen Danny Blair and Andrew Marabella

■ 437th Operations Support Squadron – Staff Sgt. Sharon Saxon

■ 437 SFS – Staff Sgts. Jason Treadwell, Roger Jackson and Annette Cordero, and Senior Airman Jeremy Ledford

(Information submitted by the Charleston AFB Airman Leadership School Staff.)

GUARD

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added Tech. Sgt. Brad Katcher, 171st SFS fire-team leader.

For many members of the 171 SFS team, this will be their first deployment with the Air Force, and their first TALCE mission.

“My team is 100 percent ready, and I give them credit for their enthusiasm,” said Vybiral. “One good thing about the delay in Charleston is it has given us a chance to get to know each other and bond as a team. Knowing each other is vital to the mission because you need to know your team member’s strengths and weaknesses so you know how you can count on them and know the qualities they bring to the team.”

Mementos from home and small reminders of family are very important to the members of the squadron, according to Senior Airman Mark Hamilton, 171 SFS fire-team member. “My Grandma gave me a saint and my Mom gave me a

cross to wear while I’m gone,” said Hamilton. “But the best thing my Grandma did for me right before I left was to give me box seats to the George Strait concert, and boy, was it awesome.”

“My father took his cross and chain off from around his neck and put it around mine for good luck, and my wife put together a photo album for me,” said Tech. Sgt. Roy Dunlap, 171 SFS fire-team leader. “Things like this really mean a lot to me.”

Keeping family close at heart often means easing their concerns.

“My wife knows most of the risk involved in my job,” said Vybiral. “All I would want is for my wife to not worry about me, and to concentrate on taking care of the family because I’m in good hands.”

The security forces teams got the call to depart CAFB for the staging location just after midnight March 27.



Warrior spirit

Joseph Terry, known in his Haliwa-Saponi tribe as Osprey, waits to perform a traditional dance at the Native American Heritage Month Picnic Nov. 15 with his father in the background. Joseph is the son of Lt. Col. Allan Terry, 317th Airlift Squadron, and his wife, Sandra Richardson-Terry. The photo was taken by Airman 1st Class Amy Perry, 437th Airlift Wing Public Affairs and received first place as Air Force’s best stand-alone photo in the Public Affairs Media Contest.

AROUND THE AIR FORCE

Federal employees will see bump in pay

WASHINGTON—Most federal employees will soon see a larger 2003 pay increase thanks to an amended Executive Order 13282 providing retroactive locality pay. The increase is one percent at Charleston AFB and will be retroactive to Jan. 12.

Officials at the Defense Finance and Accounting Service should make retroactive payments to Department of Defense civilians in April and May based on information received from personnel systems.

Federal Wage System employees should receive their retroactive pay in their April 25 paychecks based on timely receipt of personnel records.

General Schedule and other covered employees should receive their retroactive pay by the May 23 paycheck provided personnel actions are received by late April. **(Air Force Print News)**

Historic bomber package strikes Baghdad

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM—For the first time in military history, multiple B-1 Lancer, B-2 Spirit and B-52 Stratofortress long-range bombers targeted the same geographical area at the same time as part of a single strike package Saturday.

After launching from separate bases, the bombers simultaneously struck leadership and command and control targets of the Iraqi regime in Baghdad using precision munitions. **(Air Force Print News)**

Most airlines change luggage weight limits

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, ILL.—Most major airlines have changed their checked baggage policy concerning weight limits and excess charges for luggage on domestic flights, according to Air Mobility Command transportation officials. These changes will affect military travelers.

“The carriers will continue to accept luggage up to 100 pounds per piece but with significant fees after luggage exceeds their weight lim-

its,” said John Lundebly, a traffic management specialist with Air Mobility Command headquarters. “Most airlines allow two pieces of luggage, 50 pounds maximum each, to be checked free of charge. Bags exceeding 50 pounds, but less than 70 pounds, will be assessed an excess-baggage fee, normally around \$25 per bag. Bags between 70 and 100 pounds will be charged additional fees, normally around \$80 per bag. Bags weighing more than 100 pounds will not be accepted.”

Waivers are available to all military members, including active duty, Guard, Reserve and Coast Guard.

“The airlines do offer waivers to allow military personnel on orders to check luggage that weighs over the limit, but not to exceed 70 pounds, without paying an additional charge,” said Lundebly. “But each airline has its own rules of what will be accepted without an additional charge.

“Some airlines also restrict the waiver to types of luggage,” he said.

The waivers do not apply to family members or to Defense Department civilians, even if they are on official travel, and do not apply to servicemembers on leisure travel.

Carriers with domestic flights, including Northwest Airlines, American Airlines, United Airlines and Delta Airlines have already put new policies into effect. Continental Airlines has announced they will make changes to their policy April 15.

Ticket agents and local traffic management offices can access each carrier’s baggage rules and waivers through their computer reservation system.

Lundebly said travelers on AMC Patriot Express flights are allowed two checked bags at 70 pounds maximum for each bag. Commanders may approve excess baggage in the traveler’s orders. Passengers on AMC space-available flights have the same limit of two bags at 70 pounds each; however space-A travelers are not authorized excess baggage. **(Air Mobility Command News Service)**

Bush praises new generation of troops’ performance in Iraq

WASHINGTON—Today’s soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen “are not letting us

down,” the president declared to veterans group leaders gathered at the White House March 28.

“Today’s Armed Forces are upholding the finest traditions of our country and of our military.”

U.S. troops “are making great progress in the war in Iraq,” he said. “They are showing great courage and they are making this country proud.”

When the war in Iraq is won, Bush noted, “All of who have joined this cause will be able to say to the Iraqi people: ‘We were proud to fight for your freedom.’”

The days and weeks ahead “will demand further courage and further sacrifice,” Bush declared, as U.S. and coalition forces face off against Hussein’s Republican Guard divisions deployed in and around Baghdad.

In the end “the Iraqi regime will be disarmed ... and removed from power,” he emphasized.

“Given the nature of this regime, we expect such war crimes, but we will not excuse them,” Bush declared.

Any war criminals “will be hunted down relentlessly and judged severely,” he concluded. **(American Forces Press Service)**

Combat Camera Photo of the Week



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jeremy Lock

Prepping a Predator

Maintainers perform last minute pre-flight checks on an RQ-1 Predator before take off at a forward deployed Operation Enduring Freedom location. The Predator is a medium-altitude long-endurance unmanned aerial reconnaissance vehicle.

NEWS BRIEFS

Spotlight

Retirement: The 437th Logistics Readiness Squadron is hosting a retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. Scott Lorick today, 10 a.m., at the Community Education Center Ballroom. For more information, call Master Sgt. Dale Cunningham at 963-5905.

Community Support

Chapel: The Team Charleston Chaplain Service invites people to join in an evening of prayer, fellowship and song featuring the Crimson Thorns Contemporary Christian Music Ministry Tuesday, 7-9 p.m., at the Chapel annex.

Tennis: The Family Circle Cup tournament will be held Saturday - April 13 at the Family Circle Tennis Center. Military personnel and their families will receive a \$10 discount on any daily admission ticket and 50 percent discounts on night session tickets. To purchase tickets, call 1-800-677-2293, or 856-7900.


Around the base

Housing: The Housing Office will be looking closely at lawns and enforcing base standards. The majority of discrepancies are for lawns not mowed or edged and grass in the curb joints. Another area of concern is cluttered carports and lawn. For assistance keeping up with lawn care, there is a list of individuals who provide lawn care services at the Housing Office.

Tobacco cessation: The next Tobacco Cessation Class is Thursday, 4 p.m., at the Fitness and Sports Center classroom. This class meets one hour a week for a five weeks. The program offers group support, behavior modification, and the use of nicotine replacement therapy and Zyban to assist participants who desire to quit using tobacco products. For more information or to pre-register, call the Health and Wellness center at 963-6024.

Chiefs: The Chiefs' Group will hold their monthly meeting April 17, 11 a.m., at the Charleston Club. All chiefs and chief selects are invited to attend.

Charleston Warrior of the Week



Staff Sgt. Paul Kinsey
437th Maintenance Squadron

Staff Sgt. Paul Kinsey is an aerospace propulsion journeyman and assistant floor chief for the 437th Maintenance Squadron.

Kinsey performs periodic inspections on C-17 engines and replaces damaged components on the engine.

"I joined the Air Force just after I got married because I thought it would be a good stepping-stone to start my life and get educational benefits and travel experiences," said Kinsey.

Kinsey, a Charleston native, has been assigned to Charleston AFB since 1998.

"My wife and I are from Charleston, so we enjoy being in the area very much, and we like being able to stay close to home," said Kinsey.

While Kinsey is in the Air Force he plans to complete his Community College of the Air Force degree and continue his education to become a physical education teacher.

Kinsey and his wife love the beach and the different water activities like surfing, fishing, and jet skiing.

"I enjoy spending my free time with my son Jakob and daughter Abigail and would especially like to thank my wife, who makes all our lives so much easier and supports my every decision," said Kinsey.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Ruby Zarzyczny

Committees: Committees are forming to plan for the 2003 Senior NCO Professional Development Seminar, to be held July 22-24, and the Senior NCO Induction Ceremony July 24. To assist with the Senior NCO PDS, call Senior Master Sgt. George Broome at 963-4646. To assist with the Induction Ceremony, call Senior Master Sgt. Susan Barnes at 963-5776.

TRICARE: Members of the Reserve component called to active duty for more than 30 days are eligible for TRICARE, the same as any active-duty servicemember. Families of these individuals may also become eligible for TRICARE if the sponsor is called to active duty for more than 30 days. For more information, call the 437th Medical Group TRICARE Flight at 963-6710 and 963-6706, or visit www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve.

Committee: Committee members are needed to assist in planning events in celebration of Asian/Pacific Islander month. Call Capt. Heather Gordon at 963-3662, or

Master Sgt. Sherley Jones at 963-7052 if interested. Family members are welcome.

Committee members are also needed to assist in planning events in the Victims of the Holocaust Memorial Service. Call Capt. Heather Gordon at 963-3662, or Tech. Sgt. Michael Hayes at 963-3655 if interested. Family members are welcome.

Boy Scouts: Individuals are needed to help with the base Boy Scout troop. No experience necessary. For more information, call 1st Lt. Aaron Rivers at 963-4687, or e-mail aaron.rivers1@charleston.af.mil.

Survey: The 437th Logistics Readiness Squadron is running a survey on the National Institute of The Blind Service Store. The service store is part of base support infrastructure and may need to be improved or changed to better fit the needs of the base. The survey will help obtain a consensus on how well the store is servicing the community.

Take the survey at <http://>

globemaster/437msg/lrs/437LRS.htm.

TRICARE: People not listed in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database as eligible for TRICARE benefits, TRICARE Standard will deny claims. To use TRICARE benefits, people must have a valid identification card issued by the uniformed services and be in the DEERS database.

The ID card indicates on the back, in the "medical" block, eligibility for medical care from military or civilian sources. Children under 10 can normally use either parent's or guardian's ID card, but must be enrolled in DEERS. After the age of 10, the child's sponsor should obtain an ID card for the child.

Children under 10 should also have an ID card of their own when in the custody of a parent who is not eligible for benefits. Newborns more than 120 days old who need a nonavailability statement must be listed in the DEERS computer files even though they don't have an ID card.

FEATURE



Airman 1st Class Timothy Lyons and Senior Airman George DeGuzman, 437th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron aircraft mechanics, change an aircraft sound suppression panel after a inspection revealed routine wear of the rubberized Kevlar laminate.

MX keeps C-17s flying

**Story and photo by
Tech. Sgt. Ruby Zarzeczny**
437th AW Public Affairs

Barracudas, gators, sharks and vipers, oh my! Active-duty, reservists, and civilians all work together on the flight line and maintenance back shops to accomplish global airlift.

The 437th Maintenance and Aircraft Maintenance Squadrons work together to keep Charleston AFB's C-17 flying, a task that continues to get bigger.

Prior to Sept. 11, 2001, CAFB's C-17 mission averaged almost 450 departures and arrivals a month, according to Col. Tommy Hixon, 437th Maintenance Group commander. As of Jan. 8, CAFB's effort doubled, launching and recovering more than 1,100 C-17 missions per month.

Keeping the planes in the air are the 437 AMXS and 437 MXS, using call signs barracuda, shark, gator and viper on the flightline and in the maintenance back shops.

In February, more than 200 reservists from the 315th Maintenance Squadron were mobilized to support Charleston's increasing airlift operations.

"The increased mission load has only affected the amount of maintenance we perform but not the actual mission of maintenance," said 2nd Lt. Timothy Dodson, 437th MXS accessories flight OIC. "The mission of maintenance is and always will be to perform maintenance correctly and safely as humanly possible all the time, no matter what the work load is."

How do you insert more than 200 reservists into an active duty wing and maintain a seamless mission?

"We have aircraft, we don't have Reserve and active duty aircraft," said Master Sgt. Lance Kisamore, 315th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron production supervisor. "Team Charleston isn't just a catch phrase, it's a real concept."

"Charleston has a history of getting along on the flight line,"

said Col. Jim Joyce, 315th Maintenance Group commander. "The reservists here are used to working 8-10-12 hours until the job is done on the unit training assembly, and they are taking the same work ethic now while they are mobilized and working full time with the 437 MXS."

"When I was mobilized, I took over an active-duty position and became the boss," said Master Sgt. Roland Ireland, 315 AMXS dayshift shift chief. "Active duty personnel were very happy to have me jump in and take over."

After working only one weekend a month, how could a reservist be as well trained and efficient as a full-time active duty member?

"The active duty (437 MXS) has been very supportive by answering all of my questions, and they have helped to make the mission seamless," said Master Sgt. Jeff Cary, 315 MXS production superintendent. "The atmosphere of camaraderie helps to get the job done. They are helping us get up to speed and real quick."

Civilian employees are another critical part of Team Charleston.

"The civilians are the glue that holds our mission together," said, Master Sgt. Brian Robertson, 437 MXS fuels system repair NCOIC. "When we deploy, the civilians hold things together. We couldn't do the mission without them."

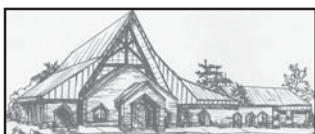
Many of the military maintenance members are deployed with the aircraft, and while deployed, their civilian counterparts lend a hand and help them out.

The civilians, active duty or Reserve, we're one team with one mission, said Master Sgt. Lyndon Dallas, 315 MXS aircraft fuels systems supervisor.

"I have received outstanding support from the 437 MXS and the civilians, and I know if I have any problems, they will be there for me," said Dallas.

"The unselfish nature of people in times of war has really made us all come together," added Robertson. "The camaraderie is outstanding, and I couldn't ask for more."

Chapel schedule



107 Arthur Drive
Office: Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Phone: 963-2536.

After duty hours, call the command post at 963-2531 for emergencies only.

Catholic Services: *Saturday* - 4 p.m. Reconciliation, 5 p.m. Mass. *Sunday* - 9:30 a.m. Mass, 9:30 a.m. Children's Church. *Weekdays* - 11:30 a.m. Mass. Sacrament of Baptism pre-baptismal classes are held the first Sunday of each month at 11 a.m. in the Chapel Annex.

Protestant Services: *Sunday* - 9:30 a.m. Sunday School in Bldg. 245, 11 a.m. Traditional Worship Service and 11 a.m. Children's Church. *Sunday* - 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in Bldg. 217 (old Chapel).

Buddhist: Columbia Shambhala Meditation Center, Suite 109, Columbia, S.C. 29405. Phone: (803) 254-9048.

Orthodox: Holy Trinity, Greek Orthodox Church, 30 Race St., Charleston, S.C. Phone: 577-2063.

Jewish: Synagogue Emanu-El, 5 Windsor Dr., Charleston, S.C. Phone: 571-3264.

Islamic: Al-Jami Ar-Rasheed, 1998 Hugo Ave., Charleston Heights, S.C. Phone: 554-1773.

Movie schedule

Admission: 99 cents for adults and children.

Any person under 17 years of age requires a parent or adult guardian (a minimum of 21 years old) to purchase an admission ticket for the minor to view R-rated movies. The ticket office opens 30 minutes prior to start of movie, unless otherwise noted.



Movie schedules are provided by AAFES. Patrons should call 963-3333 to verify movie titles, running times and start times,

which are subject to change.

Tonight, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, 2 p.m.

"The Jungle Book 2" – Animated

Mowgli gets restless and decides to return to the "bare necessities" of jungle life, leaving behind his new girlfriend, Shanti, who's afraid of the dangerous wild animals Mowgli is used to romping around with. Mowgli's old nemesis, the tiger Shere Khan, is out for bloody revenge. **(G) 78 minutes**

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

"Deliver Us From Eva" – LL Cool J

Hardened by her parents' death, Eva gives up her dreams to provide for her three sisters. The sisters honor and obey Eva's every decision, often at the expense of their self-absorbed men. Fed up, the three men conspire to rid themselves of Eva once and for all. **(R) 105 minutes**

April 11, 7:30 p.m.

"The Life of David Gale" – Kevin Spacey

Dr. David Gale is falsely accused and convicted of the murder of another activist and ends up on death row. **(R) 130 minutes**

SPORTS & FITNESS

Women on Weights

By 2nd Lt. Jennifer Andrews
437 AW Public Affairs

Women on Weights is a program the Fitness and Sports Center developed to encourage women to incorporate weight lifting and nutrition into their fitness routine.

The Women on Weights class combines nutrition and exercise to maximize success, said Frankie Cox, a dietician since 1984.

"The class was designed for women because most women are afraid that if they weight train, they will get bulky," said Senior Airman Jessica Fruth, the program's coordinator. "I wanted to let women know that unless they take steroids, women don't have the hormones to bulk up like men. Also, I wanted to clear up myths about exercise and let women know the facts."

The hour-long class takes place twice a week.

"We don't really have a set time," said Fruth. "I call the women and schedule a time that works for all of us."

The program begins in the classroom. Women learn the basics of exercising, upper weight forms and core stability. Upper weight forms can encompass all kinds of forms from

chest presses, rowing machines, shoulder workouts, arm workouts and abdominal exercises. Core stability training helps sports performance and injury prevention. Rather than isolating a specific spot like most weight lifting, stability exercises focus on the muscles of the entire torso at once.

The Health and Wellness Center dieticians teach the women about nutrition and herbal supplements.

"I talk to the women about the food guide pyramid, recommended food servings and what the serving sizes actually are," said Cox. "Depending on where you want to be – losing or gaining weight – is what or how much you should eat. Most people aren't getting what they need."

Once the women understand the pyramid, Cox explains how to read nutrition labels and how to make good decisions when eating out.

"To lose weight, a person needs to eat fewer calories," Cox said. "With weight loss, people need to exercise to keep the weight off. Exercise must be involved in the weight loss plan somehow."

"The class is designed to last six weeks," said Fruth. "After the first two or three weeks, I take the students to the weight

room. Each session focuses on exercises for different body parts using proper form. I demonstrate the proper form and then each [person] performs a few repetitions."

"Typically, the groups have been small, so we can tailor [the class] to their needs," Cox said. There have been eight participants since January.

Julie Hingos learned about the class through a friend.

"I wanted to learn the correct way to do weights and firm up," said Hingos. "I'm excited about the class."



Above: Renee Zimmerman works on building upper body strength at the Fitness and Sports Center here. Women on Weights is a program the fitness center developed to encourage women to incorporate weight lifting and nutrition into their fitness routines.



Left: Tracy Bullock does vertical leg presses at the Fitness and Sports Center here.